INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on your purchase! With your Hercules webcam, you're about to open up the doors of multimedia communications for your eyes and ears. Using your webcam's innovative functionalities, let your imagination run free and discover new ways of communicating and sharing your desires, memories and emotions.

By following the instructions in this manual, you will be able to install your webcam and carry out basic functions.

MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Once installation of the drivers and software is complete, you can access a more detailed manual, in PDF format, directly on your computer by clicking **Start – Programs** (or **All programs**) **– Hercules – *[your_webcam]*** in Windows. It will provide you with all the information you need to configure and use your webcam.

The information provided in this Quick Start Guide may vary according to your webcam's model. To find the specifications, the provided software, and its version, please refer to the information on the packaging.

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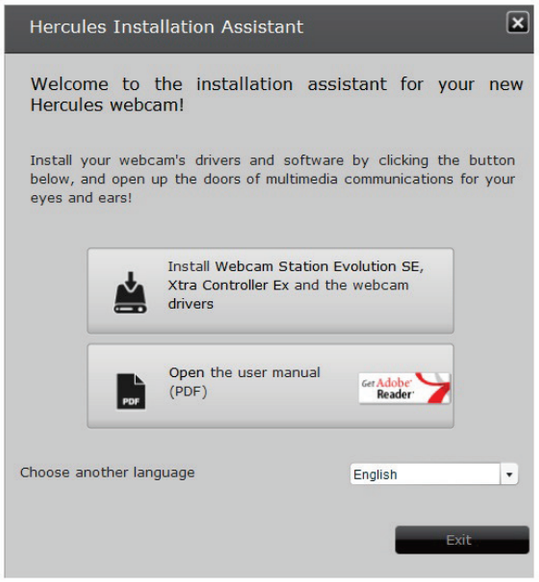
1. INSTALLING YOUR WEBCAM

*Install the drivers and software provided **before** connecting your webcam, as shown hereafter.*

1.1. Launch the Hercules installation assistant



- Insert the CD-ROM provided into your CD-ROM drive.

The installation assistant appears automatically.

If the installation menu does not launch automatically:

*- Double-click **My Computer**.*

- Double-click the CD-ROM icon.

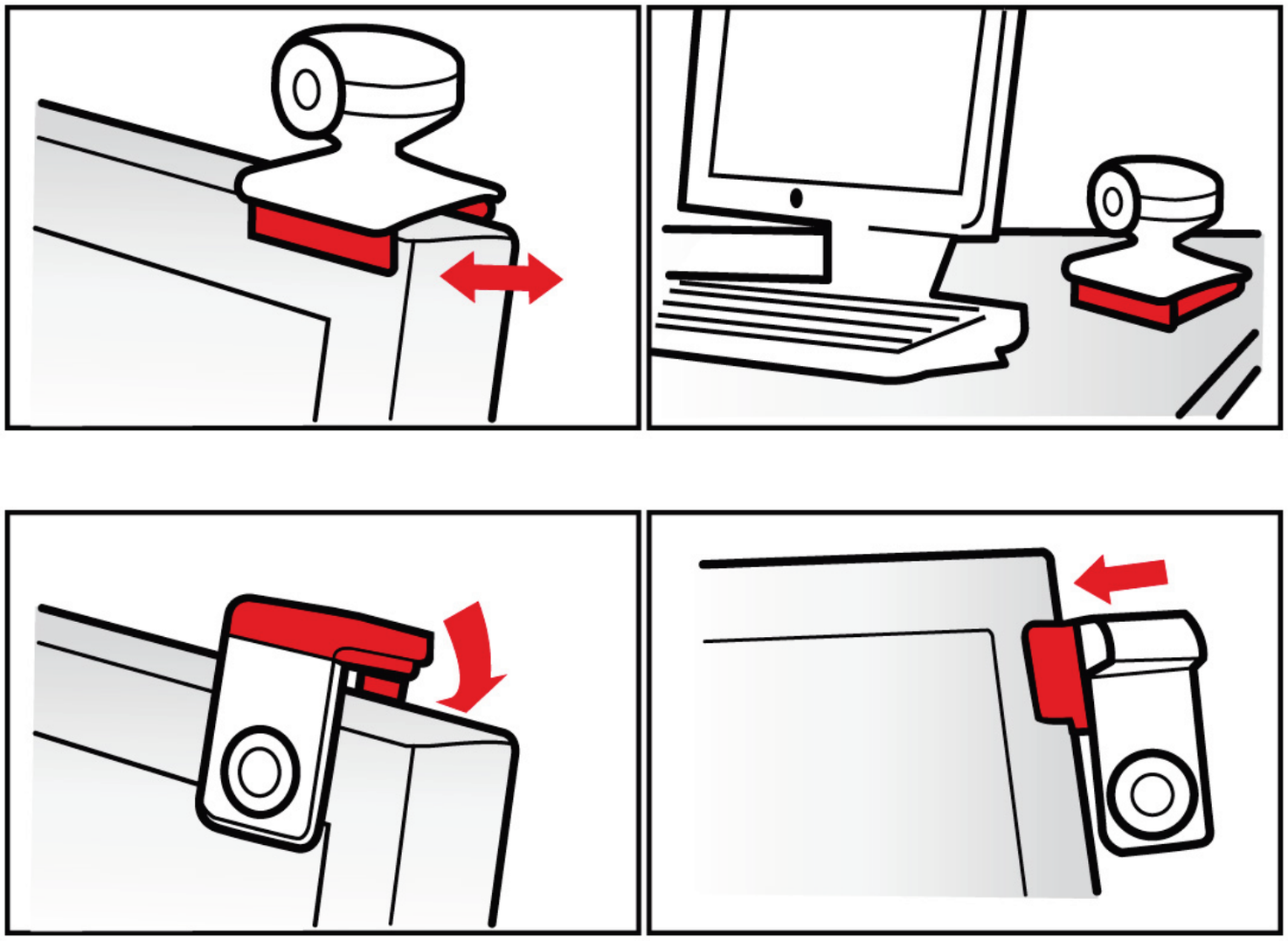
*- Double-click **Setup.exe**, if necessary.*

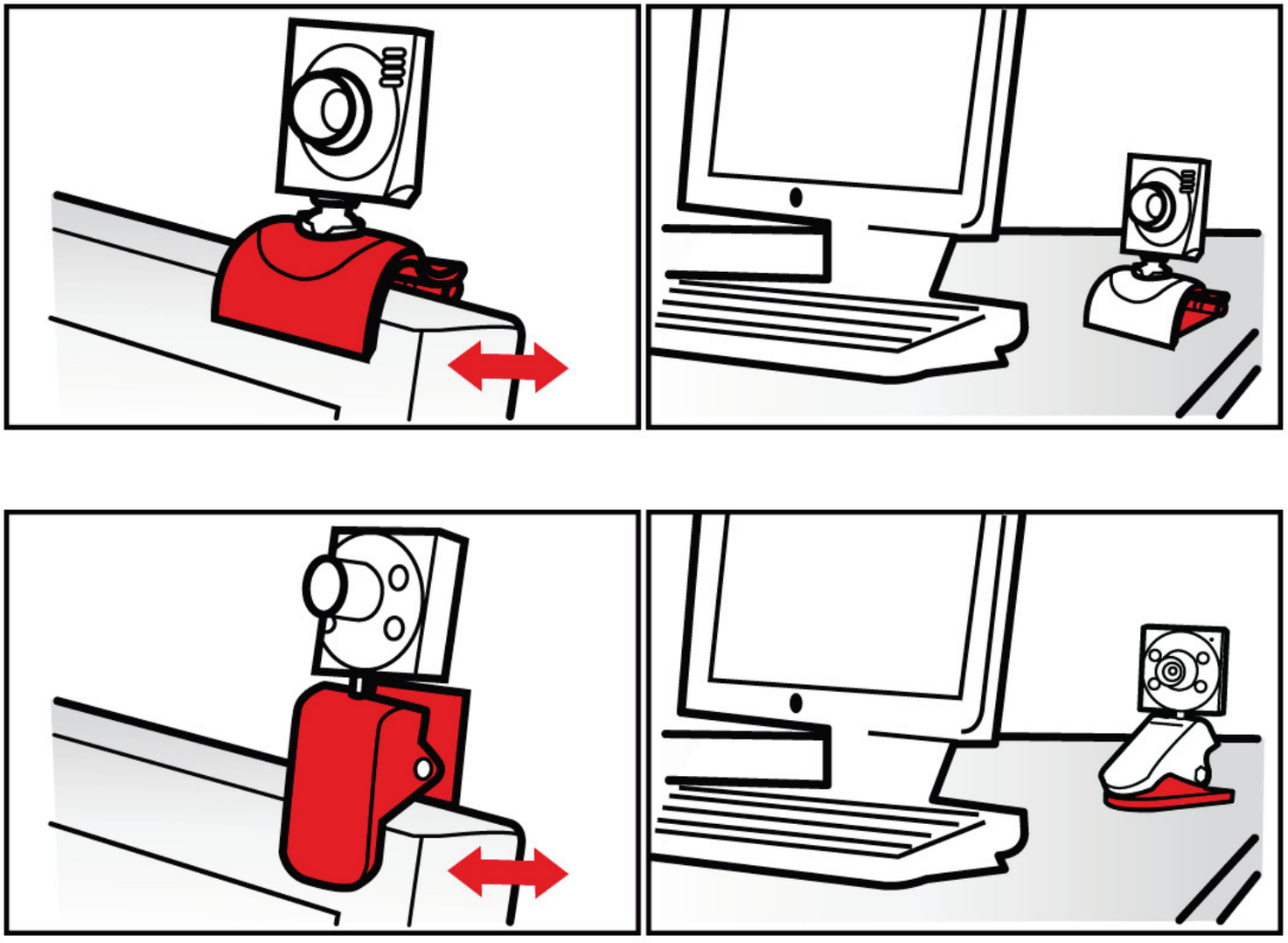
- Click the button to launch installation of Webcam Station Evolution and the webcam drivers.

1.2. Step 1: Positioning your webcam

You can attach your webcam to your LCD screen (using the attachment base) or place it near your computer, in such a way that your face appears in the viewing window. You can also put your webcam elsewhere, as far away as the cable length permits.

Webcams equipped with a tightening screw: *When tightening the screw on your webcam, make sure that the components that are in contact with your display exert pressure on the display frame, and not on the display panel! Excessive tightening may cause damage to your screen.*





1.3. Step 2: Installing the drivers and software

- Follow the on-screen installation instructions.
- Connect your Hercules webcam to a USB port when prompted to do so by the installation assistant.

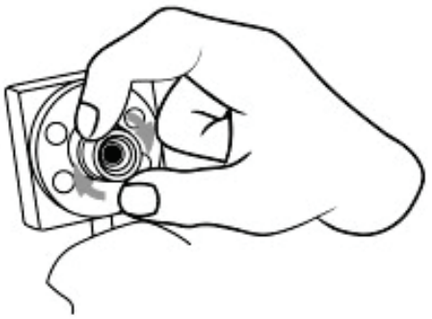
*The assistant automatically detects your webcam and begins the installation. If the Windows® **New Hardware Found** window appears, wait until it closes.*

1.4. Step 3: Testing image and sound with Webcam Station Evolution

Let's begin by verifying that the **viewing window** displays the image properly.

In this example, the viewing window displays a good quality image.

Webcams non equipped with an autofocus feature: *To adjust the obtained picture's focus, turn the threaded camera lens in the appropriate direction until the Webcam produces a sharp, in-focus picture.*

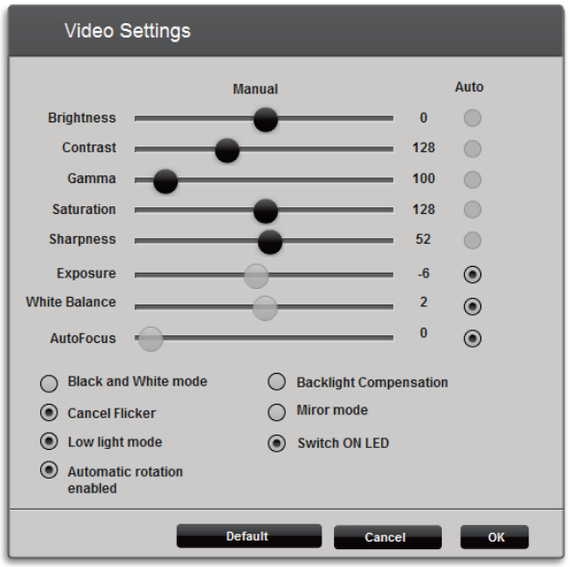


If the window is ***empty*** *and an* ***error message*** *appears, click the refresh button:* .

If the image displayed is ***jerky****, your computer is most likely using up too much of its resources: shut down some applications.*

For more information, refer to the FAQs available on the ***http://ts.hercules.com*** *site, in the* ***Online Support*** *topic.*

We will now modify **image** settings and observe the changes in the viewing window.



- Click the video settings button .

- Test out the different settings (brightness, hue…) to find the image quality that suits you best.

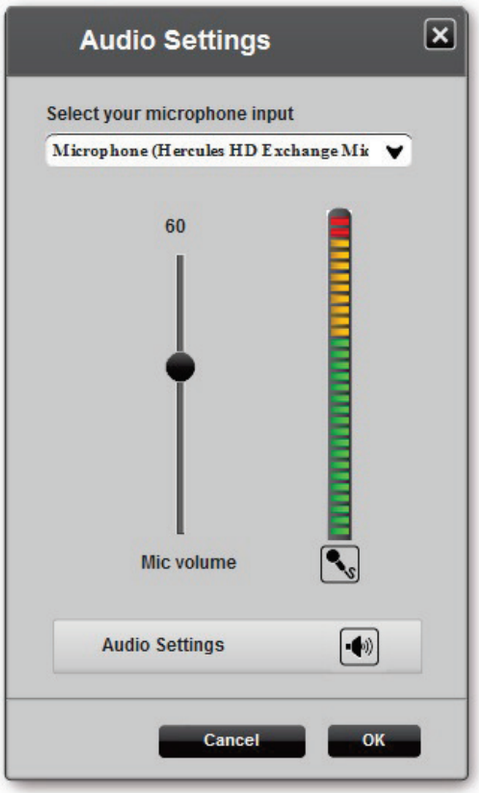
- You can enable and disable the software feature that automatically rotates your picture according to your webcam's position.

- Click **OK**.

- To restore the default settings, click the **Default** button.

- Click **Cancel** to cancel your changes.

Now let's test out different **voice** settings.



- Click the microphone settings button .

- Speak normally into the microphone while at the same time moving the microphone volume level slider until the gauge reaches the yellow zone without going into the red zone.

- Click **OK**.

These tips will help you to optimize your webcam's setup. Should you require further information, click *and refer to the FAQs available on the Hercules website (**http://ts.hercules.com**).*

- Click the button when you feel the webcam is functioning properly.

- Follow the final on-screen instructions to complete installation of your webcam.

And now, are you ready to enter into the world of multimedia communications? Your Hercules webcam will help you reveal your hidden talents.

2. TAKING PHOTOS AND VIDEOS WITH YOUR WEBCAM

Is your Hercules webcam now connected and working properly? It's time to use it under real conditions and show off your creativity by recording very simple video sequences or taking photos, using a software utility specially developed by Hercules, **Webcam Station Evolution***.

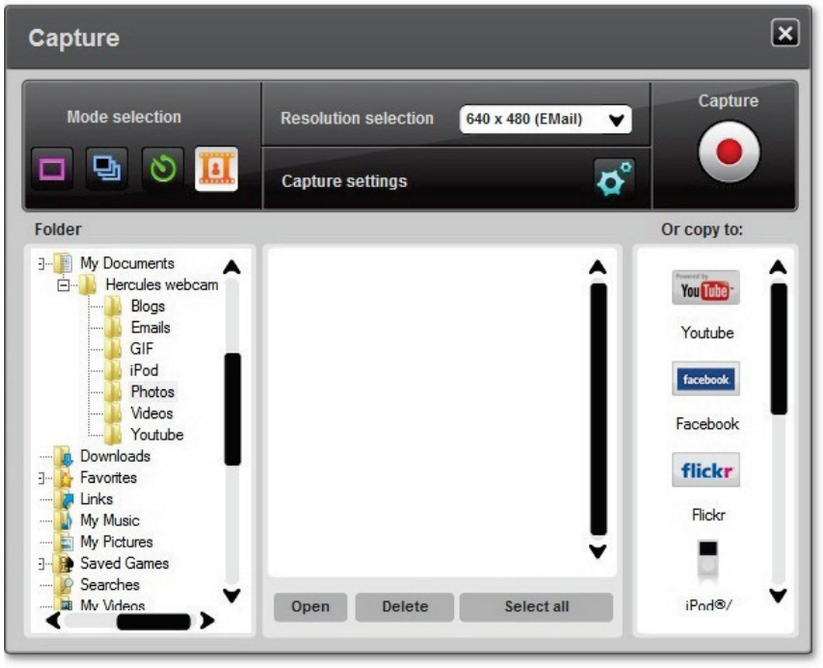
- Launch Webcam Station Evolution by clicking **Start – Programs** (or **All programs**) **– Hercules – Webcam Station Evolution**.

Note: Xtra Controller Pro EX or Pro* also opens in the lower right part of your screen, allowing you to access your webcam's advanced functions (for more information on these functions, please refer to section 4 of this guide and to the PDF manual). If you do not wish to use these functions, you can hide the window by clicking the button located in the upper right corner.

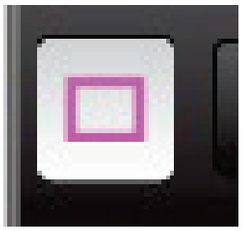
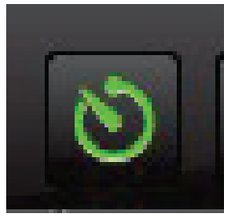
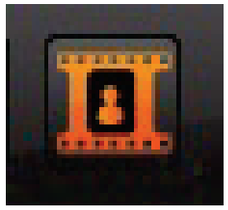
- In the main window, click the **Capture** button.

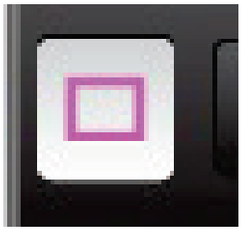
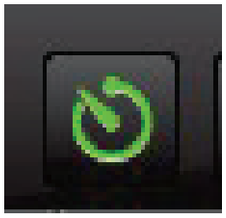
** The provided version may vary according to the models. Xtra Controller EX or Pro not provided with some models.*

A new window opens:



Follow the steps as indicated on-screen:

<table>
<tr><td colspan="4">1. Select the mode.</td></tr>
<tr><td> 
Single shot</td><td>
Burst</td><td> 
Self-timer</td><td> 
Video capture</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">2. Select the resolution in the drop-down list.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">3. Click the button.</td><td colspan="2">4. Click the button to start recording. To stop recording, click the button again.</td></tr>
<tr><td>No countdown before shot is taken.</td><td>A 3 second countdown starts, giving you time to get into your pose. Next, 10 photos are taken in quick succession, at a rate of 3 images per second (default settings).</td><td>A 3 second countdown (by default) starts, giving you time to get into your pose before the shot is taken.</td><td>No countdown before capture begins.</td></tr>
</table>

			
Single shot	***Burst***	***Self-timer***	***Video capture***
*The image is saved **in the location and format (jpeg) selected by default**, and the folder containing the images opens up, providing thumbnails of your photos.*	*The images are saved **in the location and format (jpeg) selected by default**, and the folder containing the images opens up, providing thumbnails of your photos. In this mode, Webcam Station Evolution creates an **animated GIF file** in a "GIF" sub-folder, which opens automatically to show you the animation created.*	*The image is saved **in the location and format (jpeg) selected by default**, and the folder containing the images opens up, providing thumbnails of your photos.*	*The video sequence is recorded **in .avi format (by default), in the selected location**, and the folder containing the videos opens up.*
Note: To modify the different photo and video capture settings, please refer to the Webcam Station Evolution PDF manual.			

3. COMMUNICATING VIA AN INSTANT MESSAGING APPLICATION USING YOUR WEBCAM

Your Hercules webcam has been designed to function with all instant messaging applications on the market, so long as the software has been configured for use with a webcam. We will now explain the initial steps for setting up the different messengers, allowing you to communicate with your friends by adding images to words.

Note: For further details about configuring your instant messaging application with a webcam, please refer to chapter 3.2 of your PDF manual.

*In **Windows® Live Messenger 8** software or later*

- Launch the Windows® Live Messenger software.
- Select **Tools/Audio and Video setup…**.
- In the window that appears, click **Next**.
- Follow the on-screen instructions.

*In **Skype® 2.5** software or later*

- Launch the Skype® software.
- Select **Tools/Options**.
- In the list of options on the left, click **Video**.
- Select your webcam in the list.
- Click the **Test Webcam** button.

4. ENHANCING YOUR VIDEO CONVERSATIONS USING THE XTRA CONTROLLER EX/PRO* FUNCTIONS

Apart from standard functions for adjusting the microphone and image, found in most applications associated with a webcam, Xtra Controller EX/Pro allows you to access additional innovative features such as the Hercules **Travelling Zoom** and **Chat and Show** functions. This will allow you to use your video conversation window in a totally new way: display your photos one by one or in the form of a slide show directly in the main window, while keeping the display of the video conversation in a corner of the window. You can also add a multitude of **effects** to your video.

** The provided version may vary according to the models. Xtra Controller EX or Pro not provided with some models.*

Travelling Zoom

- Intelligent zoom which follows your face during your conversations.

Chat and Show

- Instantly show your photos to the person you're chatting with (without the other person having to download them), while keeping the display of your video chat in a corner of the window.

- Also show your videos, without the other person having to download them .

- Play your audio files in MP3 and WAV formats.

Show my screen

- This function lets you show part of your computer's screen in the chat window.

Video effects

- This function lets you apply a multitude of effects to your video.

Please refer to the PDF manual for more detailed information.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If you encounter a problem with your product, please go to http://ts.hercules.com and select your language. From there you will be able to access various utilities (Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), the latest versions of drivers and software) that may help to resolve your problem. If the problem persists, you can contact the Hercules products technical support service ("Technical Support"):

By email:
To reach our Technical Support via email, you must first register online on the http://ts.hercules.com/ website. The information that you provide will help our technicians to resolve your problem as quickly as possible.

Click on **Product Registration** and follow the instructions displayed onscreen.

If you have already registered your product, please enter your user info in the **Username** and **Password** fields, then click on **Login**.

By telephone (if you do not have Internet access):

United Kingdom	**08450800942** Charged at local rate	Monday to Saturday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
United States	**1-866-889-5036** Free	Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. *(Eastern Standard Time)* Monday to Friday from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday from 5 a.m. to 11 a.m. *(Pacific Standard Time)*
Canada	**1-866-889-2181** Free	Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. *(Eastern Standard Time)* Monday to Friday from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday from 5 a.m. to 11 a.m. *(Pacific Standard Time)*
Denmark	**80887690** Free	Monday to Saturday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. *(English)*
Sweden	**0200884567** Free	Monday to Saturday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. *(English)*
Finland	**0800 913060** Free	Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. *(English)*

Hours of operation and telephone numbers are subject to change. Please visit http://ts.hercules.com for the most up-to-date Technical Support contact information.

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Worldwide, Guillemot Corporation S.A. ("Guillemot") warrants to the consumer that this Hercules product will be free from material defects and manufacturing flaws for a period of two (2) years from the original date of purchase. Should the product appear to be defective during the warranty period, immediately contact Technical Support, who will indicate the procedure to follow. If the defect is confirmed, the product must be returned to its place of purchase (or any other location indicated by Technical Support).
Within the context of this warranty, the consumer's defective product will, at Technical Support's option, be either repaired or replaced. Where authorized by applicable law, the full liability of Guillemot and its subsidiaries (including for indirect damages) is limited to the repair or replacement of the Hercules product. The consumer's legal rights with respect to legislation applicable to the sale of consumer goods are not affected by this warranty.
This warranty shall not apply: (1) if the product has been modified, opened, altered, or has suffered damage as a result of inappropriate or abusive use, negligence, an accident, normal wear, or any other cause not related to a material defect or manufacturing flaw; (2) in the event of failure to comply with the instructions provided by Technical Support; (3) to software not published by Guillemot, said software being subject to a specific warranty provided by its publisher.

Additional warranty provisions

In the United States of America and in Canada, this warranty is limited to the product's internal mechanism and external housing. Any applicable implied warranties, including warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, are hereby limited to two (2) years from the date of purchase and are subject to the conditions set forth in this limited warranty. In no event shall Guillemot Corporation S.A. or its affiliates be liable for consequential or incidental damage resulting from the breach of any express or implied warranties. Some States/Provinces do not allow limitation on how long an implied warranty lasts or exclusion or limitation of incidental/consequential damages, so the above limitation may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other legal rights which vary from State to State or Province to Province.

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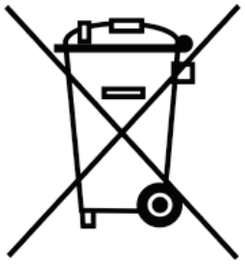
Statement of Compliance with EU Directives

Hereby, **Guillemot Corporation S.A.**, Carentoir, France declares that the Hercules webcam is in compliance with the essential requirements and other relevant provisions of directive 2004/108/CE.

CE

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION RECOMMENDATION



At the end of its working life, this product should not be disposed of with standard household waste, but rather dropped off at a collection point for the disposal of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) for recycling.
This is confirmed by the symbol found on the product, user manual or packaging.
Depending on their characteristics, the materials may be recycled. Through recycling and other forms of processing Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment, you can make a significant contribution towards helping to protect the environment.

Please contact your local authorities for information on the collection point nearest you.